

**ATR-I: Recovery Support Services  
PROVIDER STANDARDS FACT SHEET  
Alcohol and Drug Testing**

**Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Testing**

AOD testing is recommended by the Access to Recovery-Idaho (ATR-I) grant program. AOD testing results are objective measures of treatment effectiveness, as well as a source of important information for periodic review of treatment progress. AOD testing helps support positive treatment outcomes and provides accurate and reliable data supportive of other data collection efforts such as the federal Government Performance Results Act (GRPA) data collection, which is a grant requirement.

An accurate testing program is the most objective and efficient way to establish a framework for accountability and to gauge each client's progress. Timely and accurate test results promote frankness and honesty among all parties. It gives the client immediate information about his or her progress, making the client active and involved in the treatment process rather than a passive recipient of services.

Modern technology offers highly reliable testing to determine if an individual has recently used specific drugs. Further, it is commonly recognized that alcohol use frequently contributes to relapse among individuals whose primary drug of choice is not alcohol.

**Applicable Standards**

1. AOD testing policies and procedures are based on established and tested guidelines. Licensed contracted laboratories analyzing urine or other samples are also to be held to established standards.
2. Testing will be provided at the provider level and may be administrated randomly or at scheduled intervals. Frequency of testing will vary depending on a participant's progress.
3. The scope of testing is sufficiently broad to detect the participant's primary drug of choice as well as other drugs of abuse, including alcohol.
4. The drug testing procedure must be certain. Elements contributing to the reliability and validity of a urinalysis testing process include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Direct observation of urine sample collection;
  - b. Verification temperature and measurement of creatinine levels to determine the extent of water loading;

- c. Specific, detailed, written procedures regarding all aspects of urine sample collection, sample analysis, and result reporting;
  - d. A documented chain of custody for each sample collected;
  - e. Quality control and quality assurance procedures for ensuring the integrity of the process, and;
  - f. Procedures for verifying accuracy when drug test results are contested.
5. An ATR-I funded provider will provide for random AOD testing as follows:
- a. train provider staff to administer AOD testing utilizing elements contributing to the reliability and validity of such testing.
  - b. provide onsite AOD testing utilizing elements contributing to the reliability and validity of such testing.
  - c. Record all AOD testing results in the client record and in data collection reports required by the Grant, the Department, or the Department's Management Services Contractor for the ATR-I program (i.e., Business Psychology Associates – BPA).
6. The coordinated strategy for responding to client continued substance abuse includes prompt responses to positive tests, missing tests, and fraudulent tests.